



2024

Coláiste Bríde

Senior Cycle
Subject Choice

Aisling McDonald
(Guidance Counsellor)

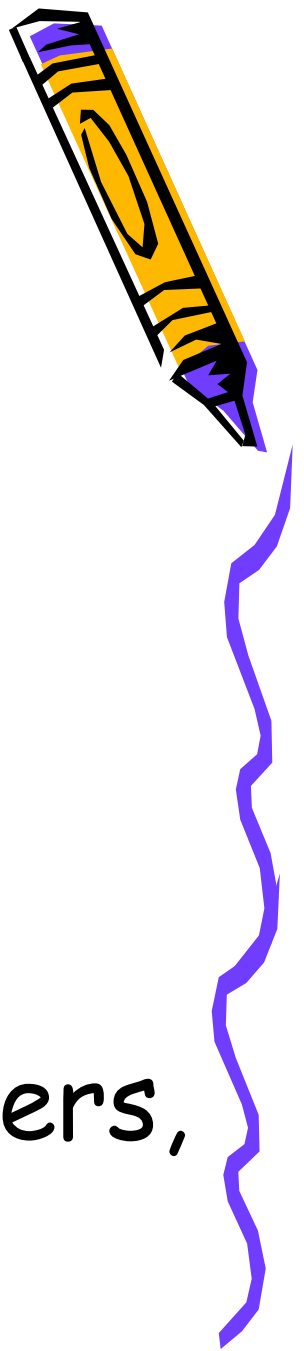
Agenda

- Address the importance of subject choice for the Senior Cycle.
- Guide students/parents/guardians in making informed decisions about the selection of Senior Cycle subjects.



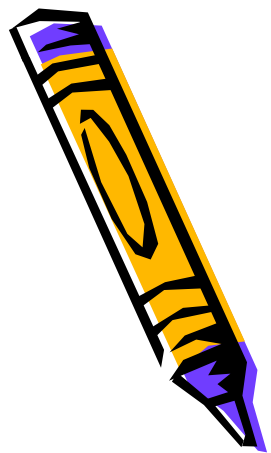
Start by Consulting

- Subject Teachers
- Guidance Counsellor
- Senior Students
- Parents/Guardians
- Siblings
- LC Textbooks, Exam papers, Websites



Make Choices Based on ...

- Interests
- Aptitudes (JC results)
- Career Aspirations
- Third Level Entry Requirements
- High Grades
- Balanced Approach



Leaving Certificate

Students study 7 Subjects
for the Leaving Certificate

3 Core/Compulsory

4 Optional



3 Core/Compulsory Subjects



English → Ordinary, Higher

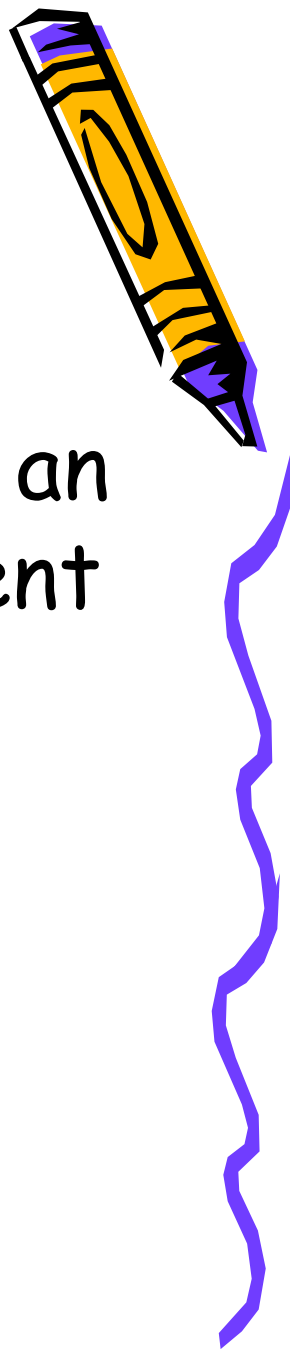
Irish → Foundation, Ordinary, Higher

Maths → Foundation, Ordinary, Higher



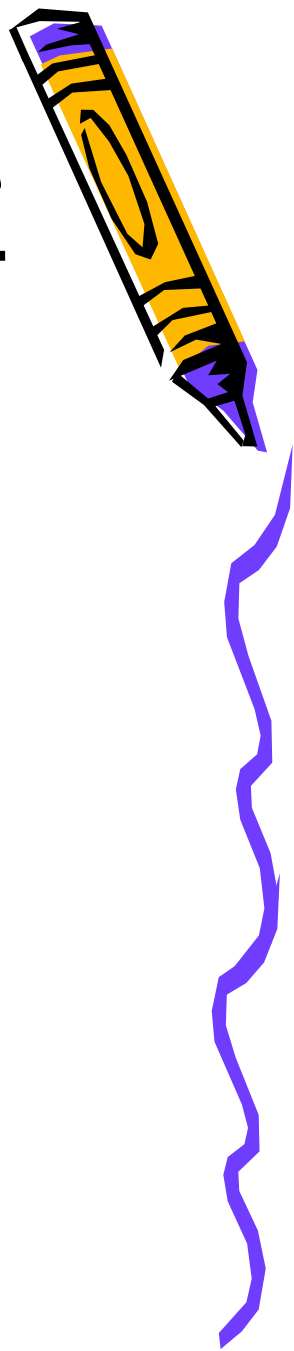
Applied Maths

Applied Maths is also available as an optional subject (pending sufficient numbers)



Optional Subject Groupings

- Languages
- Science
- Business
- Artistic
- Humanities
- Social



Hurdles to Third Level Education



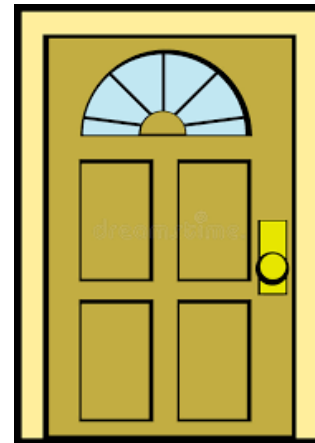
- 1) **M**inimum Entry Requirements
- 2) **S**pecific Course Requirements
- 3) **P**oints

My **S**ore **P**oints!



1 Minimum Entry Requirements

- "Matriculation requirements"
- What you have to have before you can be considered at all.



Minimum Entry Requirements Example

- SETU Waterford - Bachelor of Arts Degree (Hons) [2024]

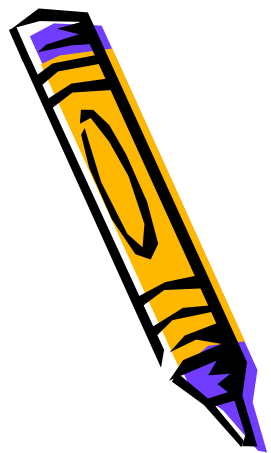
2 Subjects: H5

4 Subjects: O6/H7

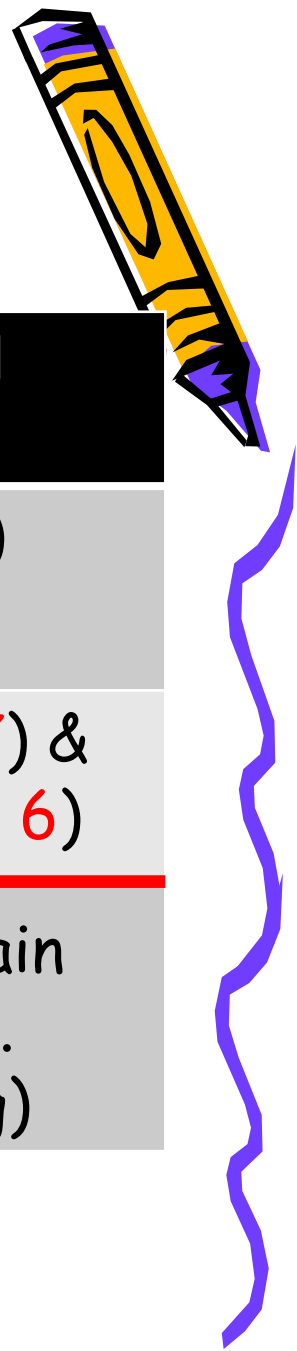


6 Subjects

English or Irish: O6/H7



Standard Minimum Entry Requirements



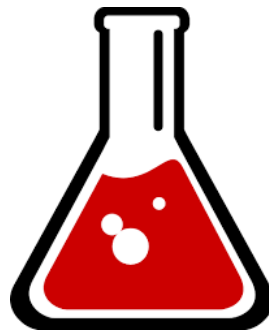
Min. Entry Requirements	Qualification Title/Level
2H5 grades 4O6/H7 grades	Honours Degree (Level 8)
5O6/H7 grades	Ordinary Degree (Level 7) & Higher Certificate (Level 6)
*3H5 grades 3O6/H7 grades	*Honours Degree in certain Institutions/Courses (e.g. Trinity; Primary Teaching)



2 Specific Course Requirements



- These are particular subjects or combination of subjects that you must have to get a place in a *specific* course.



Example of Specific Course Requirements



- Veterinary Medicine in UCD [2024]

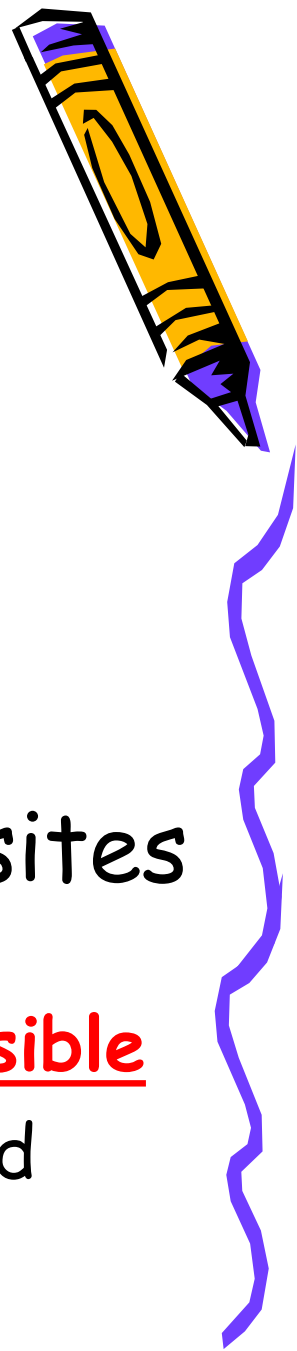
Minimum Subjects: 2H5 & 4O6/H7

Specific Course Req.: English O6/H7, Irish O6/H7, Maths O6/H7, A Third Language O6/H7, **Chemistry (H5)**.



Other: 60 hrs animal handling experience.

Checking Entry Requirements

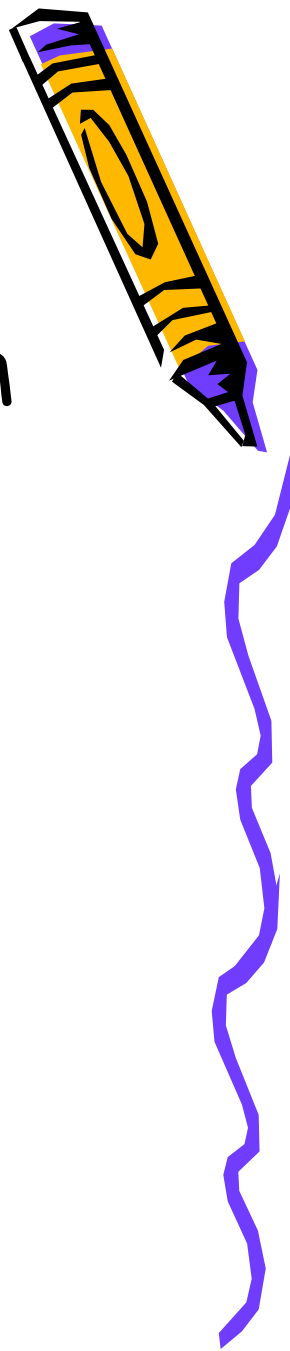


- These can be found in:
 - 1) College prospectus
 - 2) College websites
 - 3) Qualifax/Careersportal websites
- Each student is personally responsible for checking all Minimum Entry and Specific Course Requirements!

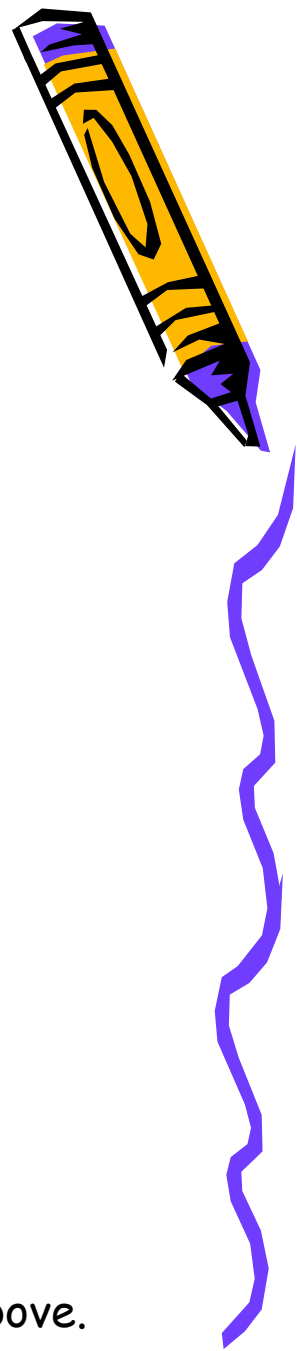


3 Points

Those who meet the minimum entry and specific course requirements are allocated places on the basis of points gained from their SIX best subjects.



Grades & Common Points Scale



Higher Level

Grade (%)	Points
H1 (90-100)	100
H2 (80<90)	88
H3 (70<80)	77
H4 (60<70)	66
H5 (50<60)	56
H6 (40<50)*	46
H7 (30<40)	37

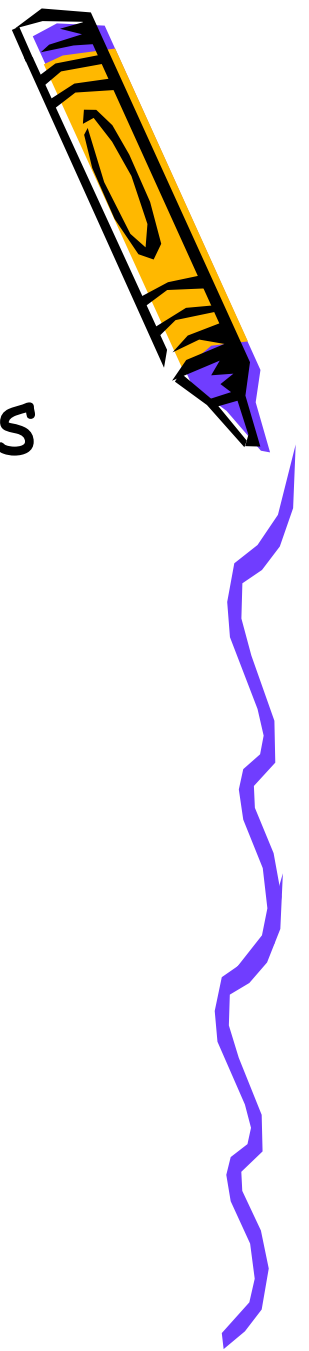
Ordinary Level

Grade (%)	Points
O1 (90-100)	56
O2 (80<90)	46
O3 (70<80)	37
O4 (60<70)	28
O5 (50<60)	20
O6 (40<50)	12

*25 Bonus points are awarded for HL Maths for H6*and above.



LCVP Link Modules



- All HEIs award points for results in LCVP Link Modules, in place of a 6th subject.

Grade	Points
Distinction	66
Merit	46
Pass	28





LCVP Acceptance



- LCVP is a Senior Cycle Programme; it is not a 'subject'.
- LCVP may not be acceptable for meeting Minimum Entry Requirements.
- Example: Honours Bachelor Degree requires 6 subjects.





LCVP Acceptance

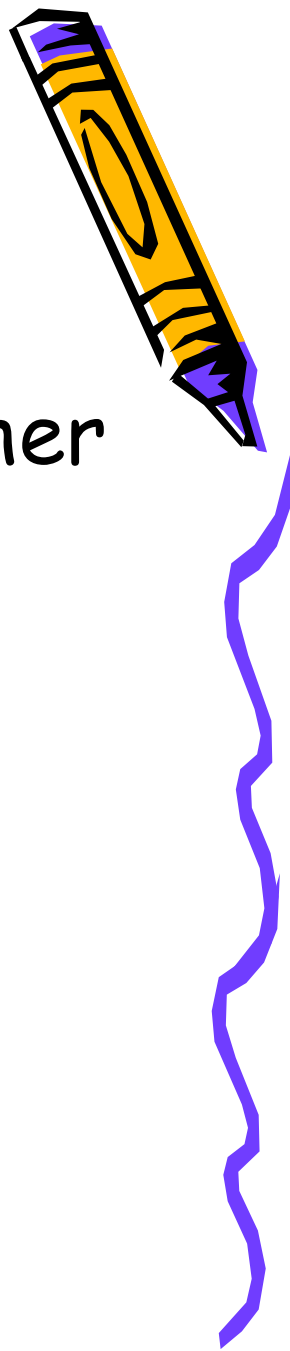


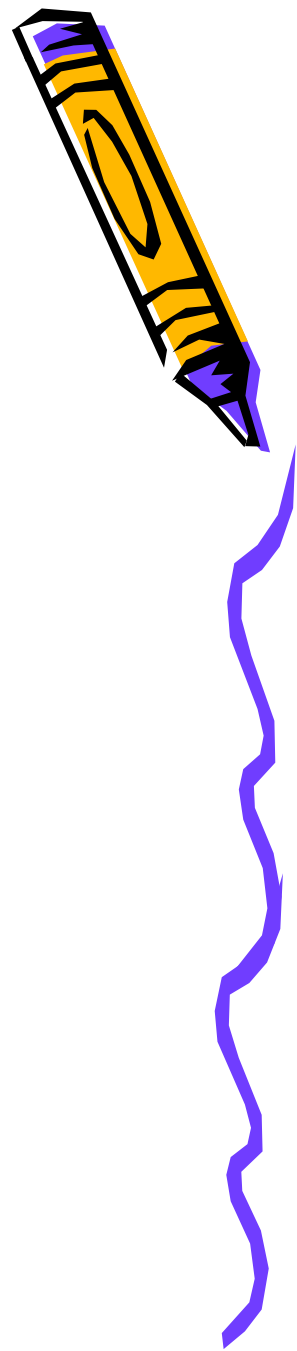
- Important if you have a reduced number of Leaving Certificate subjects (e.g. 6)
- Especially relevant to students not studying Irish.
- Speak to Ms. Murphy (SENCO) if unsure.



Foundation Level

- Check with course provider whether Foundation Level subjects are:
 - 1) Acceptable
 - 2) Awarded points
(e.g. Foundation Level Maths)





Languages Group

French, German



Language Pointers

As well as English and Irish a **Third Language** is required for many of the courses in colleges of the National University of Ireland (NUI)*

*UCD, UCC, NUI Galway, Maynooth University, Shannon College of Hotel Management, RCSI, NCAD, Burren College of Art, IPA, IOB, etc.



Exceptions to Third Language Requirement



Third Language not required for courses such as:

- Nursing
- Engineering
- Science
- Agriculture
- NCAD will accept Art instead of the third language, etc.



NUI Exemptions



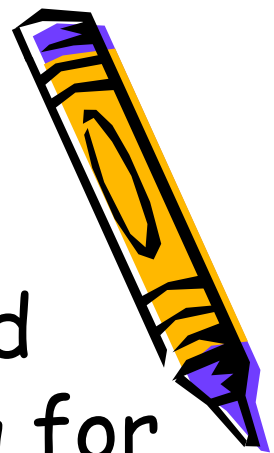
Any 6th Year student who is not taking Irish and/or a Third Language in the L.C. & intends to apply to an NUI college may need to apply to NUI for a language exemption (Irish and/or a Third Language).

N.B.

- See www.nui.ie for NUI's FAQ's & online exemption application form.



Other College Exemptions

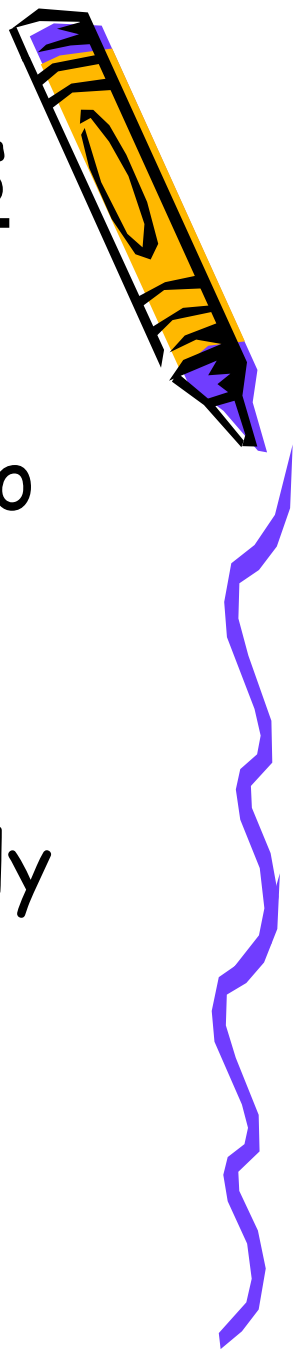


- If a student has an Irish and /Third Language Exemption, and is applying for a course(s) in a non-NUI college where Irish/Third language is an essential requirement, an application for that exemption needs to be made to EACH COLLEGE (e.g. University of Limerick, Trinity, etc.)



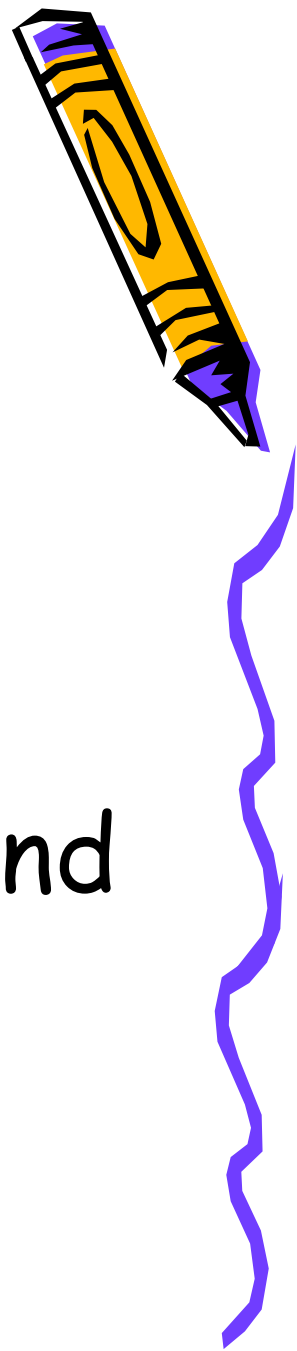
N.B. Contact each college for their individual application process!

Additional Educational Needs Co-ordinator (AENCO)



- Students are encouraged to speak to the AENCO (Ms. Murphy) if unsure about Exemptions/Subject Choice.
- N.B. It is your responsibility to apply for any exemption(s) that may be required!





Science Group

Physics, Chemistry, Biology and
Agricultural Science

(Laboratory Sciences)



Science Pointers



If applying for anything in the Engineering, Medical, Paramedical (Radiography, Physiotherapy, Human Nutrition/Dietician, Pharmacy, Medical Laboratory Science, etc.) or Science areas at Universities you need to pass at **least one** Laboratory Science subject.



Science Pointers Cont....

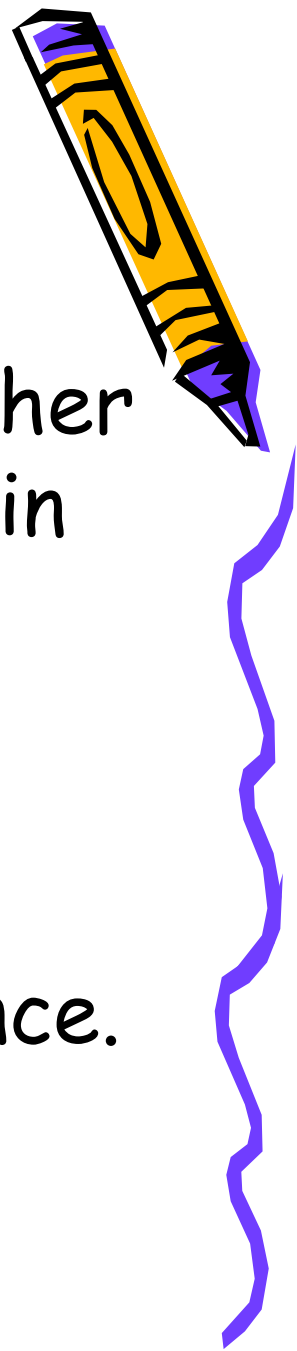


- You need a Science subject for Nursing (Biology advisable).
- Some courses require TWO **Science subjects** (e.g. Medicine, and Dentistry in UCC require a H4 in **Chemistry** and a H4 in **Physics** or **Biology**).



Additional requirement: HPAT Ireland (Medicine)

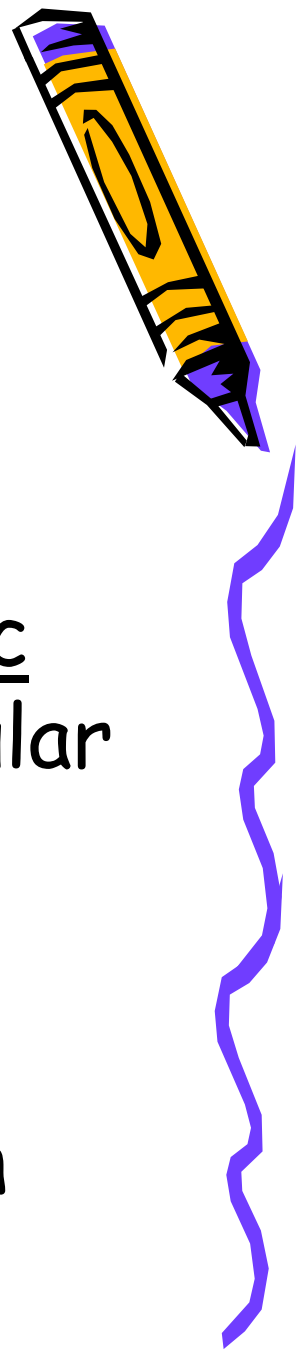
Science Not Required



- Technological Universities (TUs) - Higher Certificate/Ordinary Degree courses in Science or Engineering do not require science, but it would be useful.
- Universities - Arts, Commerce, Social Science, Law, etc. do not require science.

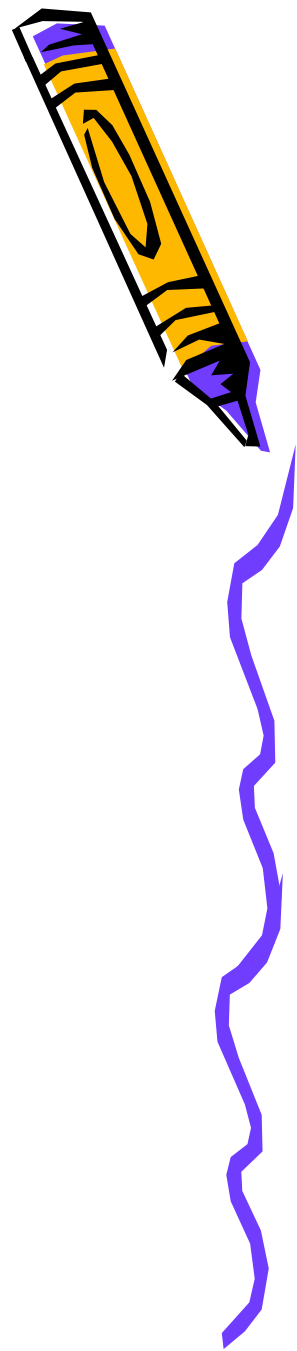


Agricultural Science



- Although Agricultural Science is accepted as a laboratory science subject by Third Level colleges, it may NOT always meet the Specific Subject Requirements of a particular course.
- E.g. Medicine in Trinity will not accept Agricultural Science in combination with Biology.





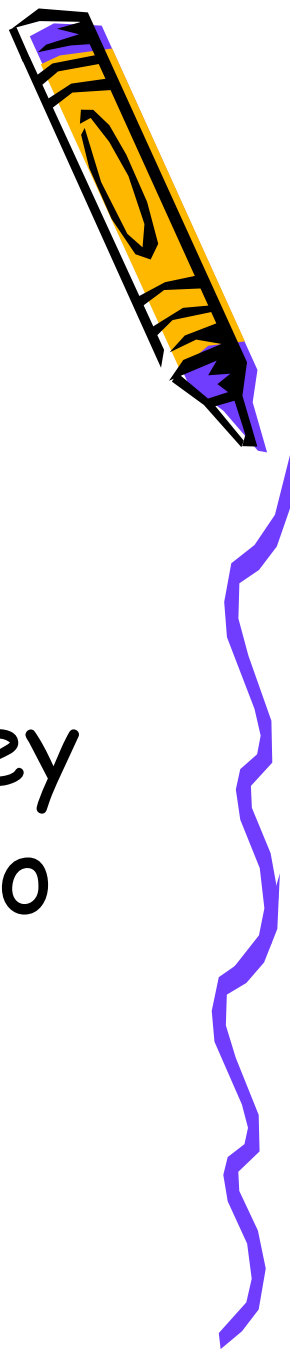
Business Group

Accountancy, Business,
Economics



Business Pointers

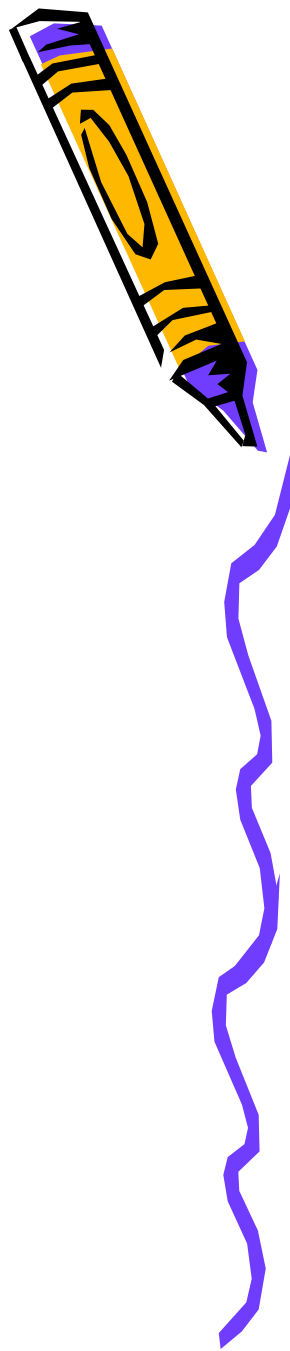
None required for most
Business, Marketing or
Commerce courses, but they
would help if you wanted to
do such a course.



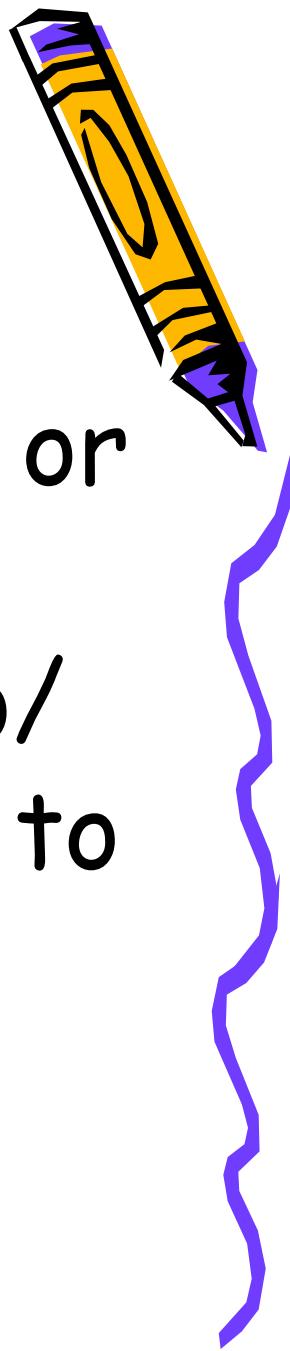


Artistic Group

Art, Music



Artistic Pointers



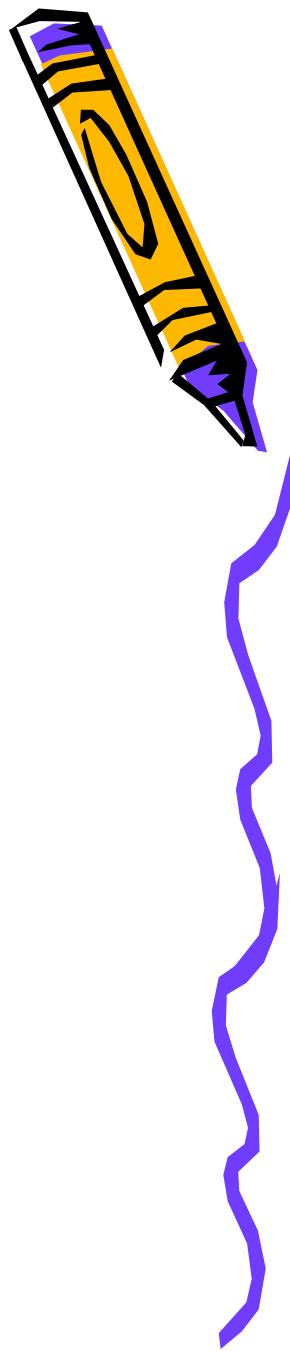
Not always essential for Art or Music courses, but recommended as a portfolio/ audition/ music test is likely to be a requirement.





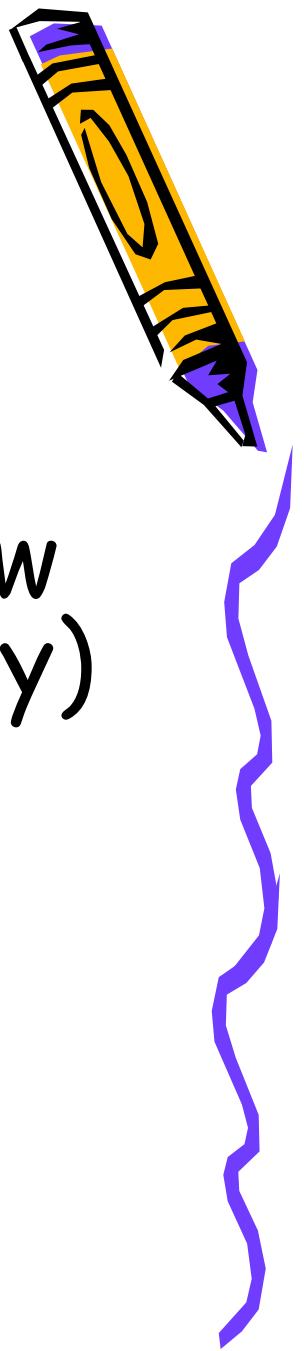
Humanities Group

History, Geography



Humanities Pointers

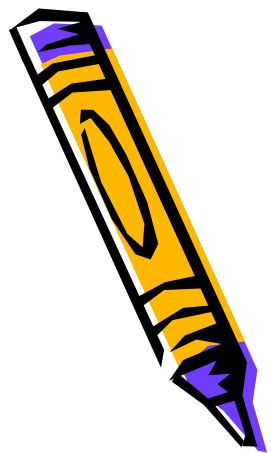
Getting to understand your world either in terms of how it got to be this way (History) or how it is laid out and utilised (Geography) is an important factor in any education.





Social Group

Home Economics, Religious
Education, Physical Education



Social Pointers

Home Economics may be a requirement for certain H.E. teaching courses.

Religious Education is not a requirement for any course; but recommended for further study in this area.

Physical Education may be a requirement for some courses; is recommended in advance of further P.E. study.



How Many Optional Subjects?

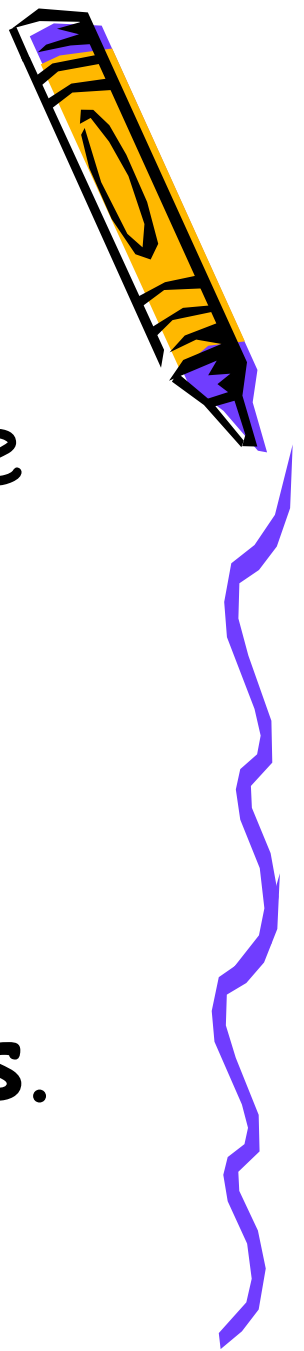


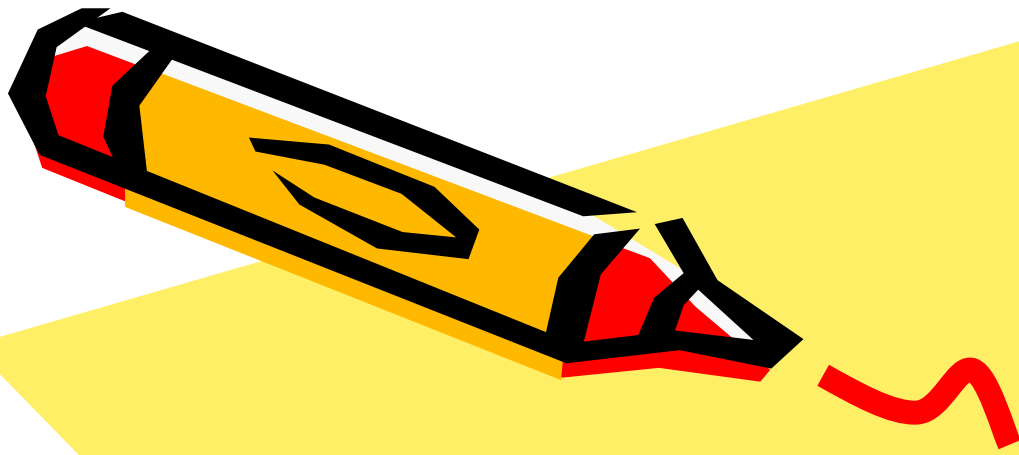
- Each student must Choose 4 Optional Subjects.
- Students are strongly advised to include a Third Language as one of these; as it will help to keep **options open**.



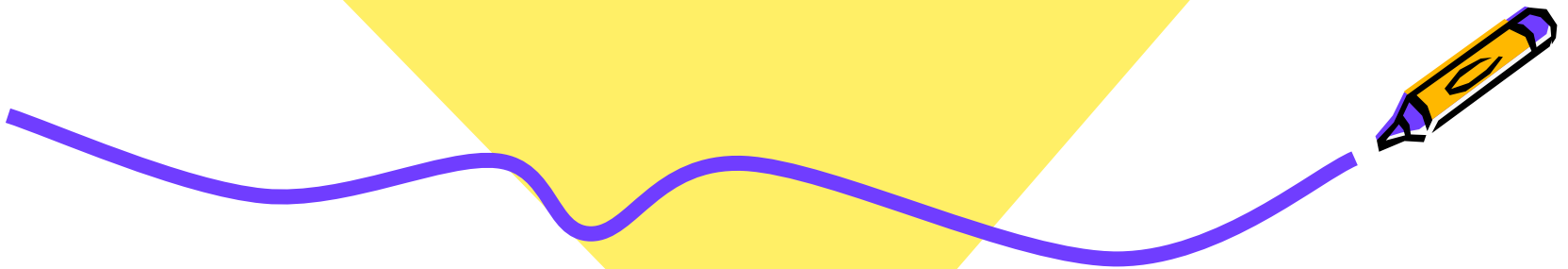
Subject Level and Demand

- All optional subjects can be taken at either **Higher or Ordinary Level**.
- Optional subjects available pending **sufficient numbers**.





I.T. Resources



ICT Resources



- **Qualifax** - www.qualifax.ie
 - Search for Entry and Course Requirements; Courses
- **CareersPortal** - www.careersportal.ie
 - Guide to Leaving Certificate Subject Choices
 - LC Subjects
 - Three Leaving Certificates (e.g. LCVP)
 - LC Subjects & Career Choice
 - LC Subjects & Grades, etc.



- **NCCA** - www.curriculumonline.ie



Qualifax: every course explained

[Search](#)

When it comes to your learning journey, the possibilities are endless. But it can be a little overwhelming. Qualifax can help you discover your pathway.

Our comprehensive database of up to 15,000 courses is here to help students, jobseekers, parents, guidance professionals and graduates explore their education and training options. So whether you're a student looking for a CAO course or an employee interested in microcredentials for that next promotion, we have you covered.



CAO

Everything you need to know about the CAO process



Further education and training

Lifelong education and training options



Adult learners

Continuing education options for adults

Useful Tools

[CAO subject requirements](#)[CAO Points Calculator](#)[Saved Courses](#)

Subject Requirements Tool

Planning to make application to the CAO? This tool will help you choose the right subjects and levels at Leaving Cert.

Subject

- Select -

- Select -

A Science Subject

A Second Language

A Third Language

Accounting

Agricultural Science

Ancient Greek

Applied Mathematics

Arabic

Art

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Classical Studies

Computer Science

Construction Studies

Design and Communication Graphics

Economics

Engineering

English

Please select a subject from the subject dropdown on the left.

All courses referred to in this section are Third Level CAO entry. The Course Data in this section is for the CAO entry in 2024

"A Science Subject" includes the following subjects:
Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics and Chemistry.

"A Second Language" includes the following subjects:
Ancient Greek, Arabic, French, German, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

"A Third Language" includes the following subjects:
Ancient Greek, Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.

Subject

Chemistry



- ☒ 6 courses definitely require Chemistry
- ☐ 204 courses may require Chemistry
- ☐ 1355 courses do not require Chemistry

Total: 1565



Advanced filters



Courses that definitely require Chemistry

Higher Education CAO

Level 8 NFQ

NFQ Type: Major

CK702

Dentistry

University College Cork

Cork City

CAO Points: 625

Higher Education CAO

Level 8 NFQ

NFQ Type: Major

TU870

Human Nutrition & Dietetics - Grangegorman

TU Dublin - Technological University Dublin

Grangegorman

CAO Points: 556

Higher Education CAO

Level 8 NFQ

NFQ Type: Major

CK707

Medical & Health Sciences

University College Cork

Cork City

CAO Points: 544

Dentistry

Higher Education CAO

CK702


This five-year course incorporates the vertical integration of traditional pre-clinical and clinical subjects to deliver an educational experience and training which follows contemporary best-practice teaching methodologies.


Award Name	NFQ Classification	Awarding Body	NFQ Level
Degree - Honours Bachelor (Level 8 NFQ)	Major	National University of Ireland	Level 8 NFQ


Duration


5 Years


Specific Subjects or course requirements


 Save


 Share

 **Course Provider:**
[University College Cork](#)




 **Location:**
Cork City

 **Attendance Options:**
Daytime, Full time

 **Qualification Letters:**
BDS (Hons)

 **Apply to:**
CAO

 **CAO Points Round 1**

Year	Points
2023	625
2022	625 
2021	625 
2020	613 



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TOOLS ▴

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Career Guide for all



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 COURSE FINDER PLC

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 FETCHCOURSES (FET)

 SCHOLARSHIPS

 COLLEGE PROFILES

 JUNIOR CERT SUBJECTS

 LEAVING CERT SUBJECTS

 SUBJECT GRADES EXPLORER

Courses

Careers

Apprenticeships

Site Search

by Course Title or Code...

by College here

SEARCH NOW



School

I am a second level student researching my subjects, courses and career options



Graduates

I am an undergraduate / graduate researching career opportunities



Adult Learners

I want to return to education and explore options and supports available



Job Seekers



Parents



Guidance / Teaching

Summary

Grades Awarded

Course Overview

Course Content

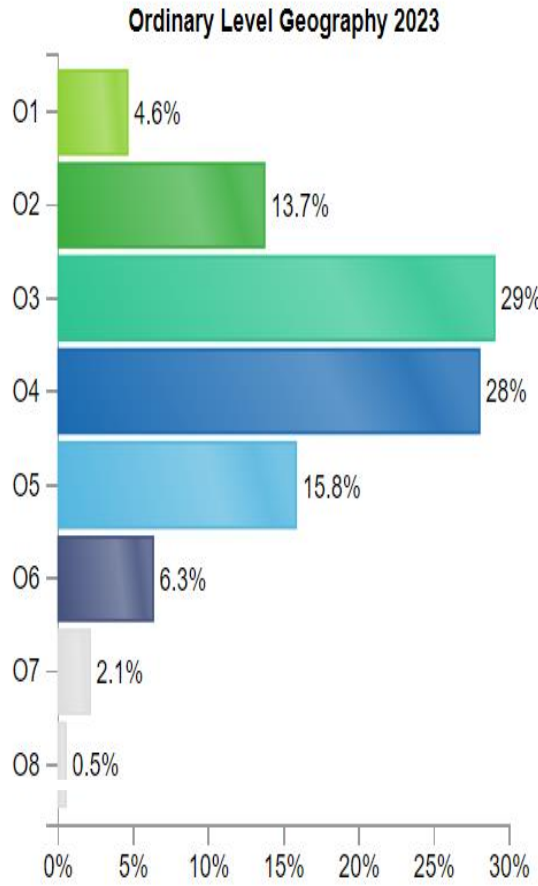
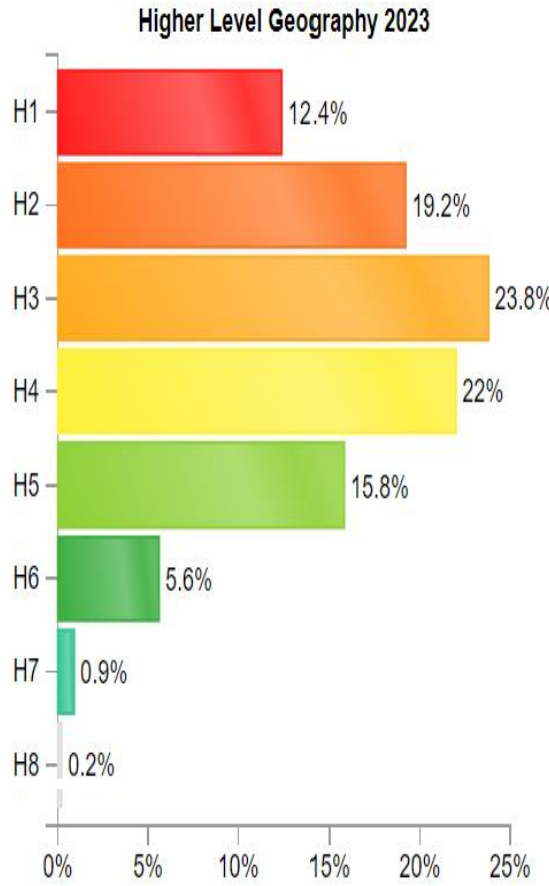
Exam Structure

Career Possibilities

3rd Level Requirements

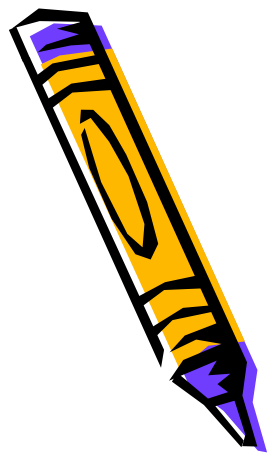


Grades Awarded



Summary

- 7 Subjects
 - 3 Compulsory
 - 4 Options
- Specific subject requirements are usually for a Third Language or a Science subject(s), so these will keep most of your options open.
- Look at interest and aptitudes and choose subjects you like and can do well in.



THE CHOICE IS YOURS TO MAKE - GOOD LUCK!

Contact

- Parents/Guardians/Students are welcome to make an appointment with the Guidance Counsellor.

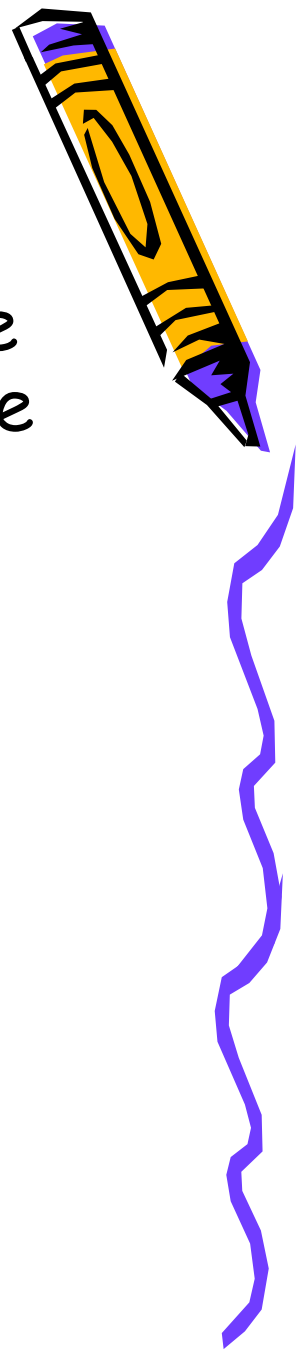
➤ 'Chat' facility



➤ aisling.mcdonald@colaistebride.ie



➤ Phone: (053) 9234245





A cartoon illustration of a character with a large head and a wide, open mouth, appearing to be shouting or cheering. The character is wearing a dark, sleeveless top. They are emerging from a large, white envelope that is open at the top. The character's right arm is raised, holding a rectangular sign that says "Thank You!" in red, stylized text. The character's left hand is resting on the edge of the envelope. The background is plain white.

Thank
You!